**Planning your film essay:**

1. Firstly you must choose a question to answer and ‘unpack’ the question:

* what question to do think suits the novel the best?

2. Underline the key words in the question.

Describe an important time or place in the text. Explain why this time or place is important in the text.

Use the type of planning that suits you best:

* Bullet points - diagram -brainstorm etc.

3. Write 3 lead statements for the question.

4. List the two or three examples you would use for each statement (total between 6-9 examples). Note your examples can’t be plot details, make sure you refer to **camera shots / lighting/ music / sound / costume / setting / camera angles / colour etc.**

**Camera shots:**

* **Long shot**
* **Mid shot**
* **Close up**
* **Extreme close up**
* **Point of view shot**

**Camera angle:**

* **High angle**
* **Low angle**
* **Parallel shot**

**Lighting:**

* **Natural**
* **Dramatic**
* **Spotlighting**
* **Use of specific colours to add meaning**

**Sound:**

* **Use of music**
* **Background sound to create an atmosphere**
* **Dialogue**
* **Sound effects**

**Beginning writing your essay:**

1. Write an interesting introduction that shows your connection with the question, the novel and your main argument and indicate what you will be focusing on- this is called your ‘thesis statement’.

Try to make an interesting general statement that brings you to the text.

2. Write your first paragraph.

**L**= this should start with your **lead statement.**

**E= elaborate** on this idea

**E**= give your **evidence / examples** for the novel. Must be film example – **camera shots / lighting/ music / sound / costume / setting / camera angles / colour etc.**

**R**= indicate the **relevance** of what you have said (why it is important) / relate it back to the question.

Check that you are answering the question.

1. Repeat this 2 more times for your body paragraphs.

**Writing your conclusion: A conclusion should:**

* Stress the important of your thesis statement,
* give the essay a sense of completeness, and
* leave a final impression on the reader.

**It should not just repeat your introduction!**

Answer the question ‘So What?’

* + Show your readers why your essay was important. Show them that your essay was meaningful and useful.
  + Give your readers something to think about, perhaps a way to use your essay in the ‘real’ world. Think in terms of global issues and generally.